

Remarks

The Office Action mailed November 22, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-17 stand rejected. Claims 18-20 are newly added. No additional fee is due for newly added Claims 18-20.

Applicant and the undersigned wish to express their appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies he extended during a telephone interview with Eric T. Krischke that occurred on February 21, 2006. During the interview, the Office Action dated November 22, 2005 was discussed. More specifically, the differences between the present invention and U.S. Patent 2,230,454 to Friesner et al. and U.S. Patent 4,165,757 to Marks were discussed.

The rejection of Claims 1-3 and 5-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 2,230,454 to Friesner et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Friesner") is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that Friesner does not describe or suggest the claimed invention. As discussed below, at least one of the differences between Friesner and the present invention is that Friesner does not describe or suggest a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor and an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a ceiling of the tent structure for facilitating creating air circulation inside the tent structure, and a mesh material covering the opening. Rather, Friesner merely describes an awning for a tent. More specifically, Friesner describes an awning including of a top portion 17 and side portions 18 that are sewed to a side wall of the tent. Side arms of a U-formed rod attached to a free end of top portion 17 support the awning in the open position. The side arms extend into the tent to move the awning to the closed position.

Independent Claim 1 recites "[a] ventilation system for a tent structure, the tent structure comprising a plurality of sides each defining a lower portion and an upper portion, the ventilation system comprising: a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor; an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window configured to extend outward from the tent structure to

a position above the base of the vent window; an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a ceiling of the tent structure, the opening cooperating with the vent window for facilitating creating air circulation inside the tent structure; and a mesh material covering the opening.”

Unlike Applicant’s claimed invention, Friesner does not describe or suggest a tent ventilation system as recited in Claim 1. Friesner does not describe or suggest a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor cooperating with an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a ceiling of the tent structure for facilitating creating air circulation inside the tent structure and a mesh material covering the opening. Rather, Friesner merely describes an awning for a tent.

For the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Friesner.

Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 likewise are patentable over Friesner.

Further, Friesner does not describe or suggest an awning that is arched, as recited by dependent Claim 2. Nor does Friesner describe or suggest a flexible fiberglass outer support member configured to extend the awning outward from the tent structure and to define an outer upper edge of the awning, as recited in dependent Claim 5, or a flexible fiberglass inner support member configured to define an inner upper edge of the awning, as recited by dependent Claim 6. Additionally, Friesner does not describe or suggest a hold rod coupled between the fiberglass outer support member and the fiberglass inner support member and configured to hold the awning in an extended position away from the tent structure, as recited by amended dependent Claim 9.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-3 and 5-9 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,165,757 to Marks (hereinafter referred to as “Marks”) is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that Marks does not describe or suggest the claimed invention. As discussed below, at least one of the differences between Marks and the present invention is that Marks does not describe or suggest a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor and an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window configured to extend outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window. Additionally, Marks does not describe or suggest an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a ceiling of the tent structure, the opening cooperating with the vent window for facilitating creating air circulation inside the tent structure and a mesh material covering the opening. Rather, Marks merely describes a double walled tent wherein an inner wall is suspended from an outer wall, which allows circulation between the walls to prevent the formation of condensate on the inner wall. More specifically, Marks describes an extension 46 formed at an edge of the outer cover 18 where an arched assembly is positioned. The extensions are in the form of an isosceles triangle. The inner cover 22 may include a net covered window formed between the legs of the arched assembly.

Independent Claim 1 recites “[a] ventilation system for a tent structure, the tent structure comprising a plurality of sides each defining a lower portion and an upper portion, the ventilation system comprising: a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor; an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window configured to extend outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window; an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a ceiling of the tent structure, the opening cooperating with the vent window for facilitating creating air circulation inside the tent structure; and a mesh material covering the opening.”

Unlike Applicant’s claimed invention, Marks does not describe or suggest a ventilation system as recited in Claim 1. Marks does not describe or suggest a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor and an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window configured to extend outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window. Additionally, Marks does not describe or suggest an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a ceiling of the tent structure, the opening cooperating with the vent window for facilitating creating air circulation inside the

tent structure. Rather, Marks merely describes a double walled tent wherein an inner wall is suspended from an outer wall, which allows circulation between the walls to prevent the formation of condensate on the inner wall.

For the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Marks.

Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 likewise are patentable over Marks.

Further, Marks does not describe or suggest an awning that is arched, as recited by dependent Claim 2. Rather, Marks describes an extension in the form of an isosceles triangle. Marks does not describe or suggest a flexible fiberglass outer support member configured to extend the awning outward from the tent structure and to define an outer edge of the awning, as recited by dependent Claim 5. Additionally, Marks does not describe or suggest a flexible fiberglass inner support member configured to define an inner upper edge of the awning, as recited by dependent Claim 6. Finally, Marks does not describe or suggest a hold rod coupled between the fiberglass outer support member and the fiberglass inner support member and configured to hold the awning in an extended position away from the tent structure, as recited by amended dependent Claim 9.

Independent Claim 13 recites “[a] ventilation system for a tent structure, the tent structure comprising a plurality of sides each defining a lower portion and an upper portion, the ventilation system comprising: a floor tent vent comprising a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor, and an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window and extending outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window; and an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to the tent ceiling to create air convection with the floor tent vent, a mesh material covering the opening.”

As discussed above, Marks merely describes a double walled tent wherein an inner wall is suspended from an outer wall, which allows circulation between the walls to prevent the formation of condensate on the inner wall. More specifically, Marks describes an extension 46 formed at an edge of the outer cover 18 where an arched assembly is positioned.

The extensions are in the form of an isosceles triangle. The inner cover 22 may include a net covered window formed between the legs of the arched assembly.

Unlike Applicant's claimed invention, Marks does not describe or suggest a ventilation system as recited in Claim 13. Marks does not disclose or suggest a floor tent vent comprising a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor, and an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window and extending outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window. Further, Marks does not disclose or suggest an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to the tent ceiling to create air convection with the floor tent vent, a mesh material covering the opening.

For the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Marks.

Claims 14 and 15 depend from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14 and 15 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 14 and 15 likewise are patentable over Marks.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 13-15 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 4 and 10-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friesner is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4 and 10-12 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1, which Applicant believes is patentable for at least the reasons presented above.

Independent Claim 13 recites "[a] ventilation system for a tent structure, the tent structure comprising a plurality of sides each defining a lower portion and an upper portion, the ventilation system comprising: a floor tent vent comprising a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor, and an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window and extending outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window; and an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to the tent ceiling to create air convection with the floor tent vent, a mesh material covering the opening."

Unlike Applicant's claimed invention, Friesner does not describe or suggest a ventilation system as recited in Claim 13. Friesner does not describe or suggest a floor tent vent comprising a vent window formed within the lower portion of a first side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to a tent floor, and an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window and extending outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window. Further, Friesner does not describe or suggest an opening formed within the upper portion of a second side of the plurality of sides and in proximity to the tent ceiling to create air convection with the floor tent vent.

Claims 14-17 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 13, which Applicant believes is patentable for at least the reasons presented above.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 4 and 10-17 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 4, 10-12, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marks is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4 and 10-12 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1, which Applicant believes is patentable for at least the reasons presented above.

Claims 16 and 17 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 13, which Applicant believes is patentable for at least the reasons presented above.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 4, 10-12, 16 and 17 be withdrawn.

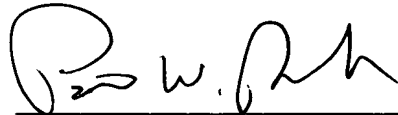
With respect to newly added Claim 18, newly added Claim 18 depends from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of this claim are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claim 18 likewise is patentable over the cited art.

With respect to newly added Claim 19, newly added Claim 19 depends from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of this claim are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicant submits that Claim 19 likewise is patentable over the cited art.

With respect to newly added Claim 20, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited art describes “an awning coupled to the first side at a top edge of the vent window configured to extend outward from the tent structure to a position above the base of the vent window, the awning comprising: a flexible outer fiberglass support member configured to extend the awning outward from the tent structure and to define an outer upper edge of the awning; a flexible fiberglass inner support member configured to define an inner upper edge of the awning; and a hold rod coupled between the fiberglass outer support member and the fiberglass inner support member and configured to hold the awning in an extended position away from the tent structure.” Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 20 is patentable over the cited art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. W. Rasche', written over a horizontal line.

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